

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Takaomi TOIHARA

Group Art Unit: 1775

Application No.: 10/091,537

Examiner: A. Turner

Filed: March 7, 2002

Docket No.: 112172

For: HARD MULTILAYER COATING, HARD MULTILAYER COATED TOOL INCLUDING THE HARD MULTILAYER COATING, AND METHOD OF FORMING THE HARD MULTILAYER COATING

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection, Notice of Allowance, or other action that closes prosecution (e.g., Quayle Action), but before payment of the Issue Fee. Attached is our Check No. 153063 in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please credit or debit Deposit Account No. 15-0461 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached.

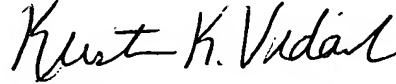
☒ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.  
37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

☒ 2. English-language Abstracts of all of the references are attached hereto, except for JP-A-11-505573. A copy of WO 97/34023, which is an English-language equivalent of that Japanese reference, is also attached.



3. Computer-generated English translations of each Japanese Patent Publication have been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office (<http://www.jpo.go.jp>) and are attached, but have not been reviewed for accuracy.

Respectfully submitted,



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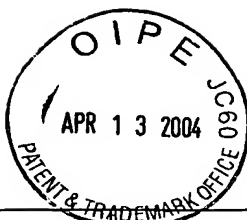
JAO:KKV/amw

Date: April 13, 2004

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**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE  
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Sheet 1 of 1

Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 112172		APPLICATION NO. 10/091,537	
				APPLICANT(S) Takaomi TOIHARA			
				FILING DATE March 7, 2002		GROUP 1775	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)							
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
		JP-A-09-031628 (Abstr. & Computer-Generated Trans.)	2/4/1997	Japan			
		JP-B-2718731 (JP-A-02-170968) (Abstr. & Computer-Generated Trans.)	11/14/1997	Japan			
		JP-A-11-505573 (Computer- Generated Trans.)	5/21/1999	Japan			
		JP-A-2000-026195 (Abstr. & Computer-Generated Trans.)	1/25/2000	Japan			
		JP-A-2000-052018 (Abstr. & Computer-Generated Trans.)	2/22/2000	Japan			
		JP-A-2000-144376 (Abstr. & Computer-Generated Trans.)	5/26/2000	Japan			
		JP-A-2001-198723 (Abstr. & Computer-Generated Trans.)	7/24/2001	Japan			
		WO 97/34023	9/18/1997	WIPO			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Date: April 13, 2004